

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAIRO 13619 172034Z

ACTION CU-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 CPR-01 L-03

/048 W

-----071739 172146Z /72

R 161620Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8374

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS CAIRO 13619

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJ: TUTANKHAMUN EXHIBITION

REF: STATE 179024 (NOTAL)

1. CONTENTS REFTEL PASSED MINISTRY OF CULTURE. FIRST UNDER-SECRETARY FOUAD ORABI'S OFFICE INFORMED POST THAT FOLLOWING OFFICIALS PLAN VISIT U.S; MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE, ABDEL MONEIM EL-SAWI; DR. MOHAMED ABDEL KHADER, NEWLY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF ANTIQUITIES ORGANIZATION; DR. ALI HASSAN, DIRECTOR, CAIRO MUSEUM; AND MISS Wafa EL-SADIK, ANTIQUITIES ORGANIZATION. INFORMATION NOT CLEAR WHETHER VISIT WOULD BE FOR PURPOSE DISCUSSING TUTANKHAMUN EXHIBITION AFFAIRS WITH METROPOLITAN OFFICIALS, OR COMBINED WITH VISIT TO EXHIBITION ITSELF.

2. SUBSEQUENTLY, POST WAS INFORMED ON AUGUST 12 BY OFFICE OF METROPOLITAN'S CAIRO REPRESENTATIVE, WILLIAM HARRISON, THAT LENGTHY TELEX HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM METROPOLITAN FOR ABDEL KHADER. TELEX, FROM DANIEL HERRICK, VICE DIRECTOR FOR FINANCE AT METROPOLITAN, SOUGHT TO BRING ABDEL KHADER UP TO DATE ON SOME ASPECTS OF EXHIBITION. ATTENDANCE FIGURES GIVEN WERE 836,000 IN WASHINGTON, AND APPROXIMATELY 1,300,000 IN CHICAGO. MESSAGE PROVIDED SOME FINANCIAL INFORMATION. SALES OF CATALOGUES, REPRODUCTIONS, JEWELRY DURING TIME EXHIBITION IN WASHINGTON
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAIRO 13619 172034Z

AMOUNTED TO DOLS 2,098,169. NET PROFITS (ON PRELIMINARY BASIS) ON DIRECT AND MAIL ORDER SALES THROUGH MARCH 31, AFTER DEDUCTING COSTS OF GOODS SOLD, INCLUDING STATRT-UP AND DEVELOPMENT, SELLING AND INDIRECT COSTS, AMOUNTED TO DOLS 613,732, WITH ANOTHER DOLS 32,333 DUE FROM FRANKLIN MINT AND BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH-CLUB ROALTIES. FUNDS BEING SET ASIDE IN SEPARATE INTEREST BEARING BANK ACCOUNT. TELEX INDICATED STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND PROFITS

BEING SENT AIRMAIL.

3. TELEX EXPLICITLY STATED FUNDS BEING SET ASIDE WILL NOT INCLUDE DOLS 83,000 PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED BY THE EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES ORGANIZATION TO BE SPENT BY THE MMA TOWARD RESTORATION OF CAIRO MUSEUM. (SUCH EXPENDITURES CAUSE OF SOME MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN MMA AND MINISTRY AND MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO DEMISE OF FORMER ANTIQUITIES DIRECTOR GAMAL MUKHTEAR.)

4. TELEX STATES MMA HOPES HAVE OPPORTUNITY MEET ABDEL KHADER AND MINISTER OF CULTURE WHEN THEY COME TO US TO ATTEND OPENING OF EXHIBITION IN NEW ORLEANS. ALSO STATES HERRICK AND MR. DE MONTEBELLO WOULD LIKE COME TO CAIRO AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATE THIS FALL TO MAKE CERTAIN THERE IS A FULL UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT REGARDING ALL ASPECTS OF MMA'S ROLE IN TUTANKHAMUN EXHIBITION.

5. TELEX ALSO SAYS MMA HAD HEARD UNOFFICIALLY ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXHIBITION IN SAN FRANCISCO AFTER SHOWING IN NEW YORK. STATES MMA DELIGHTED WITH NEWS THAT EXHIBITION HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED FOR LONGER PERIOD IN U.S. BUT MMA MUST RESPECTFULLY POINT OUT THAT THE NOVEMBER 1975 AGREEMENT WITH MMA SPECIFICALLY PROVIDES THAT THE EXHIBITION WILL NOT BE EXTENDED. TELEX FURTHER STATES, IN ABSENCE OF ANY COMMUNICATION FROM ANTIQUITIES ORGANIZATION, THE MMA IS ASSUMING THAT ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EXHIBITION WILL END UPON THE CLOSING OF

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 CAIRO 13619 172034Z

THE EXHIBITION AT THE MMA ON APRIL 15, 1979. MMA WILL, OF COURSE, BE WILLING TO ADVISE SAN FRANCISCO AS TO THE MANY ASPECTS OF TAKING ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SHIPPING, SECURITY, AND MERCHANDISING MATTERS INVOLVED IN A COMPLEX EXHIBITION OF THIS MAGNITUDE.

6. HERRICK'S MESSAGE STATES THAT IN INTEREST OF MAKING CLEAR THAT MMA IS EAGER AND WILLING TO SHARE FREELY ALL INFORMATION ABOUT EXHIBITION, THE CONTENTS OF TELEX HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR GHORBAL.

7. HARRISON'S OFFICE DELAYED DELIVERING TELEX TO ABDEL KHADER UNTIL RECEIVING CONFIRMATION ON PROFITS FIGURES. MMA HAS VERIFIED THESE ARE AS STATED ABOVE. MMA ALSO STATED EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS TO VISIT U.S. AT INVITATION OF NEW ORLEANS MUSEUM.

8. CULTURAL ATTACHE CANADIAN EMBASSY INFORMED POST CANADIAN AMBASSADOR HAD UNSATISFACTORY SESSION WITH MINISTRY OF CULTURE IN EFFORT TO ASSURE EXHIBITION WILL VISIT TWO CITIES IN CANADA. MINISTER APPARENTLY GAVE ONLY VAGUE PROMISE THAT SOMETHING COULD BE WORKED OUT, IMPLYING WEST GERMAN SHOWINGS MIGHT BE

DELAYED ORDER MAKE TIME AVAILABLE FOR CANADA. UNDERSTAND WEST
GERMANS HAVE TOLD MINISTRY EXHIBITION CANNOT BE DELAYED FURTHER,
SINCE OPENING IN GERMANY HAD ALREADY BEEN DELAYED ONCE TO
ACCOMMODATE CANADA. SINCE VISITS TO CANADA HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED
SOME PUBLICITY IN CANADA, THERE IS AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR BAD
FEELINGS ALL AROUND. CANADIAN CULTURAL ATTACHE WAS ASSURED
THAT SAN FRANCISCO SHOWING WAS PURELY PRIVATE ENDEAVOR AND
USG HAD NO ROLE IN ARRANGING IT. POST UNDERSTANDS CANADIAN
AMBASSADOR CONSIDERING REQUESTING PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU WRITE
PRESIDENT SADAT ON MATTER.
EILTS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CULTURAL PROPERTY, EXHIBITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO13619
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770297-0559
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770859/aaaabxnu.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: aa09635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 179024
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1593204
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TUTANKHAMUN EXHIBITION
TAGS: SCUL, EG, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/aa09635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009